

be entitled to aid from the United States Government pursuant to Federal Legislation for the benefit of Veterans and their dependents, in preparing and presenting their claims to the proper Federal authorities and agencies, and in securing and expediting action thereon. The Commission shall use its efforts to relieve and prevent congestion of such claims, and cause, as far as possible, every Veteran and dependents of any Veteran, to receive promptly and regularly the maximum relief and benefit to which they are, or may become entitled to, under the Federal law.

The words "Veterans" and "ex-service men and women" as used in this section include any individual who served on active duty in time of War, Campaign or Expedition, in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States, and who has received an honorable discharge from such service.

The Maryland Veterans Commission shall appoint an officer who shall be known as "State Service Officer", and such assistants as may be found necessary, to administer the disbursement of such direct Relief Funds as the Budget may provide, and to prepare in proper form and present and prosecute the claims of ex-service men and women and their dependents, with the United States Veterans Administration and other Federal agencies, and to secure and expedite action on said claims. It shall be the duty of the State Service Officer to keep in contact with the United States Veterans Administration, so that the status of any claim shall be known at any time; to continue to survey the State, in order that no Veterans or their dependents may be neglected and to perform such other duties as the Commission may direct. The State Service Officer, and such other employees as the Commission may deem necessary, shall be compensated as provided by the Commission, within the limits of the Budgetary allowances for the administration of Veterans' affairs, and shall be paid actual and necessary traveling expenses while engaged in the performance of such duties as the Commission may authorize and direct.

The Maryland Veterans Commission shall make and preserve a permanent registry of the graves of all persons who served in the Military or Naval forces of the United States in time of war and who are buried in the State of Maryland.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, be and they are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Approved May 24, 1939.